

BAYFIELD COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING
EOC & Virtual
June 23, 2022

FINAL:
Approved at the
8/11/22 BCDHS
meeting

Board Members Present: James Crandall, Jeremy Oswald, Lona Schmidt (virtual), Susan Rosa (by phone), Mary Dougherty, Madelaine Rekemeyer, Stephanie Defoe Haskins (virtual), Patrick Irvine

Board Members Not Present: Marty Milanowski

Others Present: Elizabeth Skulan, Mary Anich (Virtual), Tom Croteau, Jeanine Spuhler (Virtual), Carrie Linder, Heather Gilbertson, Stephanie Eder, Bridgid Ripley-Arena Del Mar, LLC

Call to Order and Introductions

Crandall called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. and introductions were made.

Opportunity for Public Comment (Limit 3 minutes please.)

No Public Comment

Discussion and Possible Action – Reviewed the May 26, 2022, meeting minutes.

Motion by Rekemeyer, second by Oswald to approve the May 26, 2022, meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed.

Program Presentation –Bridgid Ripley, Arena Del Mar, LLC, Equine Assisted Living located in Oulu presented.

- Equine Assisted Learning (EAL) Program Objectives
 - Connections
 - Community
 - Communication
- Feel of EAL
 - Targets development of life skills
 - Horses are aware of emotions of people around them
 - Develops social and emotional learning, connectedness, form bonds with non-verbal clients
 - Provides peaceful atmosphere, brings pleasure, encourages the expressions of feelings
 - Horses have a calming effect on young people, offers a safe place to be
 - Increase perceived social support
 - Improves character skills which improves academic results
- Program activities
 - Unmounted activities only
 - Herd observation, discussion, and journaling
 - Equine communication and safety
 - Relationship building

Discussion and Possible Action – Open the Floor to Public Hearing for Public Comment, Input on the 2023 DHS Budget, and/or Bayfield County’s Policies and Procedures for Equal Opportunity in Employment, Service Delivery, and Language Access.

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Motion by Oswald, second by Schmidt to Open the Floor for Public Hearing for Public Comment, Input on the 2023 DHS Budget, and/or Bayfield County's Policies and Procedures for Equal Opportunity in Employment, Service Delivery, and Language Access. Motion passed.

Floor opens at 4:39 pm

Opportunity for Public Comment – Comments on the 2023 Budget, and/or Comments Regarding Bayfield County's Policies and Procedures for Equal Opportunity in Employment, Service Delivery, and Language Access. (Limit 3 minutes please.)

- None

Review any Written Comments: Skulan reviewed written comments by The Center Against Sexual and Domestic Abuse (CASDA), Namekagon Transit, Lori Knapp, Kathy Claremboux, and Tom Mittelstaedt. Comments were placed on file.

Monthly Section Reports

Support Services – Elizabeth Skulan for Stephanie Eder

- Congratulations to Sarah Traaholt, Bayfield County Employee of the Year!! The award was very well deserved
- Audit began this week; however, information has been compiled for several weeks.
- The first draft of the 2021 Human Services Annual Report was completed.
- Eder continued working on the annual Wisconsin Medicaid Cost Report (WIMCR).
- Part-time Receptionist Ashley Bayliss resigned. Due to the workload, a request for a full-time receptionist was submitted to Human Resources.
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Family Services – Mary Anich

- There has been an increase in after-hours calls.
- It is a struggle to identify out of home placements for children with complex needs.
- Workers have been searching across the nation to identify a placement for a youth without success. The youth will likely be placed in Lincoln Hills, the state's Juvenile Correctional Facility.
- Miller, Gordon and Anich participated in a Resource Connections meeting to try to identify potential providers to place a difficult youth.
- Anich and Kamm continue to attend Applied Learning Communities training.
- Anich completed an Ethics and Boundary training.
- Continue to actively recruit for open positions.

Economic Support Services – Jeanine Spuhler

- Welcomed new Economic Support Specialists Isabel Ford and Katy Hansen. They are both currently participating in new worker training, which takes approximately three months.
- Actively recruiting for one more Economic Support Specialist.
- Public health emergency continues.
- All Northern Income Maintenance Consortium (NIMC) workers participated in a full day of virtual training on June 21, 2022.
- The Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) ended on May 15, 2022. Due to disconnection notices, calls are still being received for the program.

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- The State Department of Administration is considering a summer fill program for bulk customers.
- Aaron Kalmon will complete training WHEAP and will begin to process applications during the next hearing season.

Aging & Disability (A & D) Services – Carrie Linder

- The latest edition of the Living Well Newsletter is in the final stages of production. Four hundred copies will be mailed. One hundred copies will be emailed.
- The Children’s Long-term Services (CLTS) program continues to grow.
 - A second Youth Support and Services Coordinator position is posted.
 - Due to a lack of qualified applicants, the position was readvertised.
- Home Delivered Meals (HDM) is collaborating with Bayfield Community Resources (CORE) and the Northern Wisconsin Community Services Agency (NWCSA) to decrease food insecurity for HDM clients with high nutritional risk. CORE will provide twenty clients with a frozen meal when their hot meal is delivered and NWCSA will provide ten clients with a food box.
- Linder reported two individuals have been placed at the Clark County Rehabilitation & Living Center. These clients have behavioral issues due to dementia.
- Birch Haven is not accepting new patients.
- Inclusa formed a provider group to increase recruitment of direct care providers in the area.

Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) – Tom Croteau

- The CCS program received three new referrals today.
- One referral will be enrolled in the Community Services Program (CSP).
- The CCS team is fully staffed with the hiring of Vanessa Sowl. Sowl is currently job shadowing with the other facilitators. Sowl previously worked at Indigo as a CCS provider.
- Liz Kallio has received four or five authorizations to complete assessment. Contracting with Kallio will allow Croteau to supervise additional behavioral health staff.
- Two behavioral health positions will transition from the Family Services to Croteau’s section which will be named the Behavioral Health and Community Programs section (BHP Section) as of July 1, 2022.

Monthly Reports

Monthly Financial and Training reports were reviewed and placed on file.

2023 Budget Guidance – Preparation Memo to Department Heads from County Administrator Mark Abeles-Allison, June 6, 2022

- No estimated increases have been provided for wage and fringe increases.

2023 DHS Budget Priorities – The list of the top DHS Budget priorities was reviewed.

Discussion and Possible Action – Consideration was made to recommend the reappointment of Michael Wells to another three-year term as a Bayfield County citizen representative to the Aging and Disability Resource Center of the North (ADRC-N) Governing Board to the County Board Chair.

Motion by Dougherty second by Rosa to recommend the reappointment of Michael Wells as a citizen member to the Aging and Disability Resource Center of the North (ADRC-N) Governing Board to the County Board Chair. Motion passed.
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Discussion and Possible Action – Consideration for Approval, Department of S85.21 Transportation Co-payment Policy for the Transportation Assistance Program (TAP) – Carrie Linder

- The Transportation Coordination Committee (TCC) reviewed the draft policy.
- The TCC recommended the following changes to the policy: raise the Federal Poverty Level from 150% to 200%; include a note on the application that if a resident can afford to pay a portion of the contribution they should; and accept any form of the application (e.g., paper, email, photo, etc.)

Motion by Dougherty second by Rekemeyer to approve the Department of S85.21 Transportation Co-payment Policy for the Transportation Assistance Program (TAP) as modified by the Transportation Coordination Committee. Motion passed.

Discussion and Possible Action – Review and approval 2021 DHS Annual Report, recommendation to forward to full County Board.

- A Summary of corrections was included in the board packet.
- Other corrections that will be made were noted.
- DHS struggled to get the report done earlier this year, but due to a lack of complete financial information it cannot be completed before July.

Motion by Irvine, second by Oswald to recommend approval of the 2021 Annual Report with the corrections noted. Motion passed.

Action – Close the Floor for Public Hearing for Public Comment, Input on the 2023 DHS Budget, and/or Bayfield County's Policies and Procedures for Equal Opportunity in Employment, Service Delivery, and Language Access.

- Crandall closed the floor to public comment at 5:57 pm

Other (Informational Items)

- A. E-mail, memo of appreciation, Stephanie Tutor and Vanessa Sowl
- B. E-mail, memo of appreciation, Ashley Miller
- C. Ellie Webb, new Dementia Care Specialist, verbal praise from Mary Dougherty

Future Meetings

- A. August 11, 2022 (July/August combined meeting due to 2023 Budget Timelines)
- B. September 22, 2022
- C. October 27, 2022

Crandall Adjourned the meeting at 5:59 pm.

Submitted by Heather Gilbertson, Clerk III